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PRESS RELEASE

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District Woman Sentenced to 4 ½ Years in Prison On Stalking, Contempt and Identity Theft Charges - Made Thousands of Calls to Victim at Home and Place of Employment -

WASHINGTON - Joy Whylic, 43, of Washington, D.C., was sentenced today to 4 ½ years in prison on numerous counts of stalking a woman she had never met for the greater part of a year, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. announced.

Whylic was found guilty on July 1, 2011, in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia of 19 counts of felony stalking, felony contempt and second degree identity theft. She was sentenced by the Honorable Robert I. Richter. Upon completion of the prison term, Whylic will be placed on three years of supervised release. During that time, she is to maintain employment, get mental health treatment, and stay away from the victim in the case.

According to the government's evidence, from the period of June 2010 through the end of February 2011, Whylic repeatedly called the victim, a woman she had never met, at her place of employment, sometimes more than 300 times in a single shift.

Whylic and her ex-husband had previously worked at the same facility as the victim. Whylic was fired in 2005, and after she and her ex-husband split up in 2006, she began calling the facility, harassing and threatening her ex-husband - often more than 100 times in a single shift. She turned her focus to other employees of the facility at times, largely related to her suspicions that they had a romantic relationship with her ex-husband or they were close friends of his.

In June 2010, Whylic directed her stalking efforts toward the victim in this case, for reasons that are not entirely clear. Whylic's deliberate, vicious campaign of harassment against the victim included filing false police reports about her, making thousands of phone calls to the victim's place of employment in violation of several court orders, and even setting up a sophisticated plot to get the victim arrested. At some point, Whylic obtained the victim's personal cellphone number and began calling her in the middle of the night, telling her that she was outside and that she was going to blow up her house.

Whylic created a scheme in which she made it appear as if the victim had called the victim's stepmother over 30 times, in apparent violation of a mutual protective order that the victim had obtained with her stepmother for a probate proceeding related to the death of the victim's father in early 2011. This conduct eventually resulted in a criminal warrant being wrongfully issued for the victim in another state on alleged violations of that protective order.

At today's sentencing, Judge Richter said that Whylic has evil in her heart and engaged in a "carefully planned" method of "vindictive" harassment.

In announcing the sentence, U.S. Attorney Machen expressed his appreciation to the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), especially Detectives Michael Baylor and Andrea Latson, and Officer Robert Pryor. He also commended the outstanding forensic investigation work by U.S. Attorney's Officer Investigator John Marsh, as well as the work of Legal Assistant Nicole Lee, Paralegal Specialists Tiffany Jones and Troy Griffith, Law Student Intern Austin Smith and the entire Litigation Support Unit.

U.S. Attorney Machen especially praised Victim Advocate Meshall Thomas, who worked closely with the victims over the course of the trial preparation, and Assistant U.S. Attorney Elizabeth McCombs, who investigated and prosecuted the case.

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